Message Text

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EXDIS

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM USUN NEW YORK DATED DECEMBER 30, 1975 SENT SECSTATE WASHDC INFO CAIRO, DAMASCUS, LONDON, TEL AVIV IS REPEATED TO YOU: QUOTE

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EXDIS

FROM MOYNIHAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

 $TAGS: PFOR, \, UNSC, \, XF$

SUBJECT: BRITISH MISSION VIEWS ON JANUARY UNSC SESSION ON

MIDDLE EAST

1. SUMMARY. UKUN DEPUTY MURRAY AND MIDDLE EAST
AFFAIRS OFFICER BATTISCOMBE CALLED ON AMBASSADOR SHERER
AND MISOFF LORENZ DECEMBER 30 TO DISCUSS STRATEGY OPTIONS FOR
FORTHCOMING SC MIDDLE EAST DEBATE. THEIR MAIN INTEREST
WAS IN EXPLORING POSSIBILITY OF THE EUROPEANS INTRODUCING A
MODERATE DRAFT RESOLUTION TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE FROM ARABS AND
NON-ALIGNED. THEY HAVE DISCUSSED THIS WITH NO ONE ELSE (AND ARE
UNDER INSTRUCTIONS NOT TO DO SO,) RECOGNIZING EXERCISE WOULD
SERVE NO PURPOSE UNLESS US ACQUIESCES. TO BE EFFECTIVE,
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BRITISH BELIEVE EUROPEAN CONSULTATIONS ON A PREEMPTIVE DRAFT

MUST START SOON--PREFERABLY EARLY NEXT WEEK.

- 2. MURRAY BEGAN BY SAYING THAT A SINE QUA NON FOR UK SUPPORT FOR ANY RESOLUTION WILL BE A CLEAR REAFFIRMATION OF RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338 AND NO OTHER RESOLUTIONS. (FRENCH AND ITALIANS HAVE TOLD US THIS IS THEIR POSITION AS WELL.) BEYOND THIS REAFFIRMATION, BRITISH BELIEVE THAT TO BE CREDIBLE THE RESOLUTION MUST CONTAIN A PARAGRAPH REFERRING TO THE CRITICAL IMPORTANCE TO A LASTING MIDDLE EAST PEACE OF ACHIEVING THE LEGITIMATE INTERESTS OF THE PALESTINIANS. THERE WILL ALSO BE PRESSURE. AS THEY SEE IT. TO INTRODUCE PARAGRAPHS ON ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL AND PALESTINIAN PARTICIPATION IN NEGOTIATIONS TOWARD A PEACE SETTLEMENT. THEY BELIEVE THAT WITHDRAWAL SHOULD NOT BE ADDRESSED (SINCE THERE IS NO REALISTIC CHANCE OF DUPLICATING THE LANGUAGE OF 242,) WHILE PALESTINIAN PARTICIPATION MIGHT BE A FALL-BACK POSSIBILITY SO LONG AS THE SPONSORS REACHED A PRIOR UNDERSTANDING TO INCLUDE NO REFERENCE TO THE PLO.
- 3. BRITISH RECOGNIZE THESE IDEAS ARE TENTATIVE AND ROUGH. HOWEVER, THEY BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT TO ASCERTAIN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WHETHER THE IDEA OF A PREEMPTIVE DRAFT, ON WHICH THE US WOULD ABSTAIN, IS ACCEPTABLE TO US.
- 4. I GAVE MURRAY LUNCH AND HE WENT OVER THE SAME GROUND. THEY WANT TO BE HELPFUL, BUT DON'T HAVE ANY VERY CLEAR THOUGHTS AT THIS POINT, PREFERRING TO AWAIT WORD FROM US. WHAT SHOULD WE TELL THEM? MOYNIHAN UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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